

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

**None of the claims have been amended. For convenience to the Examiner, the current status of the claims is as follows:**

1. (previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:
  - a sales information registering unit to register sales conditions from a seller, said sales conditions including a specification of goods or services which the seller wants to sell and price information at which the seller wants to sell the goods or services;
  - a sales information search unit to receive offer conditions from a purchaser, said offer conditions including a specification of goods or services which the purchaser wants to purchase and price information at which the purchaser wants to purchase the goods or services, to determine the sales conditions of which specification of goods or services and price information match with the specification of goods or services and price information of the offer conditions, said sales conditions having been registered in the sales information registering unit before the offer conditions are received, and to output a search result indicative of the determined sales conditions to a purchasing terminal of the purchaser; and
  - an offer information registering unit to register the offer conditions when the search result indicates that the specification of goods or services and price information of all the sales conditions registered in the sales information registering unit do not match with the specification of goods or services and price information of the offer conditions.
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:
  - a purchaser terminal transmitting offer conditions from a purchaser;
  - a sales information registering unit registering sales conditions from a seller;
  - a sales information search unit searching in the sales information registering unit the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions from a purchaser and outputting a purchase result to the purchaser;
  - an offer information registering unit registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the

purchaser indicates non-agreement to the search result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions, and registering the offer conditions as a purchase when the search result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the search result; and

an offer information search unit searching the offer information registering unit for the sales conditions matching the offer conditions and outputting a sales result indicative thereof to the seller.

5. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein the offer information registering unit, upon receipt of the notice indicating agreement to the search result, provides identification of each offer condition.

6. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein the offer information search unit sorts the offer conditions, collects the number of offer conditions, and transmits the offer conditions sorted and the number of offer conditions to the seller terminal.

7. (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:  
a seller terminal transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions from a seller;  
an offer information registration unit registering offer information comprising offer conditions; and

an offer information search unit receiving the sales conditions, searching in the offer information registration unit the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, and transmitting a sales result to the seller terminal comprising the offer conditions matching the sales conditions and allowing the seller to accept or decline the sales result.

8. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 7, further comprising a sales information registering unit registering the sales conditions when the seller accepts the sale.

9. (withdrawn) The apparatus as recited in claim 7, further comprising a sales information registering unit updating the sales conditions when the seller accepts the sale.

10. (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:  
a purchaser terminal transmitting offer information comprising offer conditions from a

purchaser;

a seller terminal transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions from a seller;

a sales information registering unit registering the sales conditions;

a sales information search unit searching, in the sales information registering unit, the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions and outputting a purchasing result to the purchaser terminal;

an offer information registering unit registering the offer conditions when the purchasing result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates non-agreement to the purchasing result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions, and registering the offer conditions as a registration information when the purchasing result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the purchasing result;

an offer information search unit receiving the sales conditions, searching in the offer information registration unit the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, and transmitting a sales result to the seller terminal comprising the offer conditions matching the sales conditions and allowing a seller to accept or decline the sales result; and

a reservation unit registering the search result from the sales information search unit and the offer conditions.

11. (cancelled)

12. (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:

purchaser means for transmitting offer conditions from a purchaser;

sales information registering means for registering sales conditions from a seller;

sales information search means for searching in the sales information registering means the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions and outputting a purchase result to the purchaser;

offer information registering means for registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates non-agreement to the search result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions, and registering the offer conditions as a purchase when the search result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the search result; and

offer information search means for searching the offer information registering means for the sales conditions matching the offer conditions from the seller and outputting a sales result indicative thereof to the seller.

13. (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:  
seller means for transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions from a seller;  
offer information registration means for registering offer information comprising offer conditions; and

offer information search means for receiving the sales conditions, searching in the offer information registration means the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, and transmitting a sales result to the seller means comprising the offer conditions matching the sales conditions and allowing the seller to accept or decline the sales result.

14. (withdrawn) An apparatus, comprising:  
purchaser means for transmitting offer information comprising offer conditions;  
seller means for transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions;  
sales information registering means for registering the sales conditions;  
sales information search means for searching, in the sales information registering means, the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions and outputting a purchasing result to the purchaser means;  
offer information registering means for registering the offer conditions when the purchasing result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from a purchaser indicating non-agreement to the purchasing result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions, and for registering the offer conditions as a registration information when the purchasing result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the purchasing result;

offer information search means for receiving the sales conditions, searching in the offer information registration means the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions, and transmitting a sales result to the seller means comprising the offer conditions matching the sales conditions and allowing a seller to accept or decline the sales result; and

reservation means for registering the search result from the sales information search

means and the offer conditions.

15. (withdrawn) A method, comprising:  
transmitting offer conditions from a purchaser;  
registering sales conditions;  
determining the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions and outputting a search result indicative thereof;  
registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates non-agreement to the search result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions;  
and  
registering the offer conditions as a purchase when the search result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the search result.

16. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 15, further providing identification of each offer condition upon receipt of the notice indicating agreement to the search result.

17. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 15, further comprising  
sorting the offer conditions;  
collecting the number of offer conditions; and  
transmitting the offer conditions sorted and the number of offer conditions.

18. (withdrawn) A method, comprising:  
transmitting offer conditions from a purchaser;  
searching for sales conditions from a seller matching with the offer conditions and outputting a purchase result;  
registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates non-agreement to the search result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions;  
registering the offer conditions as a purchase when the search result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the search result; and  
searching for the sales conditions matching the offer conditions from the seller and

outputting a sales result indicative thereof to the seller.

19. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 18, further providing identification of each offer condition upon receipt of the notice indicating agreement to the search result.

20. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 18, further comprising  
sorting the offer conditions;  
collecting the number of offer conditions; and  
transmitting the offer conditions sorted and the number of offer conditions.

21. (withdrawn) A method, comprising:  
transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions from a seller;  
registering offer information comprising offer conditions from a purchaser;  
receiving the sales conditions;  
searching the offer conditions matching the sales conditions;  
collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions; and  
transmitting a sales result to a seller terminal comprising the offer conditions matching the sales conditions and allowing the seller to accept or decline the sales result.

22. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising registering the sales conditions when the seller accepts the sale.

23. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising updating the sales conditions when the seller accepts the sale.

24. (withdrawn) A method, comprising:  
transmitting offer information comprising offer conditions via a purchaser terminal;  
transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions via a seller terminal;  
registering sales conditions;  
searching the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions and outputting a purchasing result to the purchaser terminal;  
registering the offer conditions when the purchasing result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser terminal indicates non-agreement to the purchasing result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer

conditions;

- registering the offer conditions as a registration information when the purchasing result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser terminal indicates agreement to the purchasing result;

- receiving the sales conditions;

- searching the offer conditions matching the sales conditions;

- collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions;

- transmitting a sales result comprising the offer conditions matching the sales conditions and allowing a seller to accept or decline the sales result; and

- registering the search result from the sales information search means and the offer conditions.

25. (withdrawn) A computer readable storage medium controlling a computer and comprising a process of:

- transmitting offer conditions from a purchaser;

- registering sales conditions;

- determining the sales conditions matching with the offer conditions and outputting a search result indicative thereof;

- registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates non-agreement to the search result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions; and

- registering the offer conditions as a purchase when the search result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the search result.

26. (withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 25, further providing identification of each offer condition upon receipt of the notice indicating agreement to the search result.

27. (withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 25, further comprising

- sorting the offer conditions;

- collecting the number of offer conditions; and

transmitting the offer conditions sorted and the number of offer conditions.

28. (withdrawn) A computer readable storage medium controlling a computer and comprising a process of:

transmitting offer conditions from a purchaser;

searching for sales conditions from a seller matching with the offer conditions and outputting a purchase result;

registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that either the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates non-agreement to the search result, or the sales conditions do not match with the offer conditions;

registering the offer conditions as a purchase when the search result indicates that the sales conditions match with the offer conditions and a notice from the purchaser indicates agreement to the search result; and

searching for the sales conditions matching the offer conditions from the seller and outputting a sales result indicative thereof to the seller.

29. (withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 28, further providing identification of each offer condition upon receipt of the notice indicating agreement to the search result.

30. (withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 28, further comprising

sorting the offer conditions;

collecting the number of offer conditions; and

transmitting the offer conditions sorted and the number of offer conditions.

31. (withdrawn) A computer readable storage medium controlling a computer and comprising a process of:

transmitting sales information comprising sales conditions from a seller;

registering offer information comprising offer conditions from a purchaser;

receiving the sales conditions;

searching the offer conditions matching the sales conditions;

collecting the offer conditions matching the sales conditions; and

transmitting a sales result to a seller terminal comprising the offer conditions matching



the sales conditions and allowing the seller to accept or decline the sales result.

32. (withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 31, further comprising registering the sales conditions when the seller accepts the sale.

33. (withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 31, further comprising updating the sales conditions when the seller accepts the sale.

34. (cancelled)

35. (previously presented) A intermediate apparatus comprising:  
a sales information registering unit to register sales conditions from a seller, said sales conditions including a specification of goods or services which the seller wants to sell and price information at which the seller wants to sell the goods or services;

a sales information search unit to receive offer conditions from a purchaser, said offer conditions including a specification of goods or services which the purchaser wants to purchase and price information at which the purchaser wants to purchase the goods or services, to determine the sales conditions of which specification of goods or services and price information match with the specification of goods or services and price information of the offer conditions, said sales conditions having been registered in the sales information registering unit before the offer conditions are received, and to output a search result indicative of the determined sales conditions to a purchasing terminal of the purchaser; and

means for registering the offer conditions when the search result indicates that the specification of goods or services and price information of all the sales conditions registered in the sales information registering unit do not match with the specification of goods or services and price information of the offer conditions.